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January 12, 1953

THE FOREIGN INFORMATION PROGRAM  
(Prepared by the Department of State)

1. During the period under review, the Department of State continued, through the foreign information and educational exchange programs conducted by the International Information Administration, to seek the fulfillment of the mission defined in Annex V to NSC 68/3 and the execution of the tasks set forth in Annex V to NSC 114/2.

2. The mission was defined as follows:

"The frustration of the design of the Kremlin will result primarily from concrete decisions taken and vigorous measures executed in the political, military and economic fields by the peoples and the governments of the free world under the leadership of the United States. The task of the United States foreign information and educational exchange programs is to assure that the psychological implications of those actions are, first, fully developed and, second, effectively conveyed to the minds and the emotions of groups and individuals who may importantly influence governmental action and popular attitudes in other nations and among other peoples."

3. The tasks were set forth in order of priority as follows:

"The first task is to multiply and to intensify psychological deterrents to aggression by Soviet Communism, whether in the form of outright action by the armed forces of the Soviet Union, of Communist China or of the satellites of the Soviet Union, or in the form of the subversion of existing free governments by civil forces acting on behalf of Soviet Communism.

"The second task is to intensify and to accelerate the growth of confidence in and among the peoples and the governments of the free world, especially in Western Europe, including Western

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Germany, in their capability successfully to deter aggression by Soviet Communism or to defeat it should it nonetheless occur and to inspire concrete international, national and individual action accordingly.

"The third task is to combat, particularly in the Near and Middle East and South and Southeast Asia, extremist tendencies threatening the undermining of the cohesion and the stability of the free world and withdrawal of governments and peoples into neutralism.

"The fourth task is to maintain among the peoples held captive by Soviet Communism, including the peoples of the Soviet Union, hope of ultimate liberation and identification with the free world and to nourish, without provoking premature action, a popular spirit disposed to timely resistance to regimes now in power.

"The fifth task is to maintain among peoples and governments traditionally linked with the United States, particularly in Latin America, a continued recognition of mutual interdependence and to promote national and individual action accordingly."

4. Although the priorities among the tasks have not formally been altered, during the period under review efforts were made with regard to the second and the third tasks equal to, if not surpassing, efforts made with regard to the first. In addition, increased efforts were made with regard to the fifth task.

5. These efforts were inspired primarily by specific circumstances developing in areas in which the execution of the tasks are of primary importance. These circumstances included, among others, the difficulties arising in both France and the Federal Republic of

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Germany with regard to ratification of the contractual agreements and the treaty establishing the European Defense Community, the problems confronted by the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in achieving the goals set at Lisbon in February, 1952, and increased questioning in Europe of policies and actions of the United States. They also included the continued differences between the United Kingdom and Iran arising from the nationalization of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, the increased tension between France and its protectorates, Tunisia and Morocco, and the persistent political instability throughout much of the Near and Middle East and Southeast Asia. They further included the dissemination to other countries in Latin America from Argentina of propaganda hostile to the United States and continuing political instability and economic deterioration in some countries in Latin America. Finally, the unresolved conflicts in Korea, Indochina and Malaya continued to impose strains on the confidence and the cohesion of the free world.

6. Propagandists in the service of Soviet Communism undertake vigorously to exploit all such differences within the free world and particularly between the United States and the rest of the free world. Their chief instrumentality was the campaign of hatred against the United States, which consisted of three primary elements, allegations concerning its imperialistic designs, allegations concerning the barbarity practiced by its soldiers in Korea toward prisoners of war and civilians and allegations concerning its use of bacteriological weapons in Korea. Into the campaign of hatred were geared the campaign of peace and the campaign for trade. The evidence is that such propaganda found fewer credulous listeners and had

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and had less impact than did similar campaigns two and more years ago. The psychological impact of differences originating and continuing within the free world itself therefore required major efforts on the part of the official propaganda of the United States.

7. Efforts to counteract the situations briefly described did not involve lessened concern with regard to the first task. Rather, to the extent that confidence and unity may be promoted in Western Europe, stability and cohesion advanced in the new states of the Near and the Middle East and Southeast Asia and traditional bonds maintained by the United States with the republics of Latin America, deterrents to aggression and subversion by Soviet Communism are multiplied. To the same extent, the purpose openly avowed by Stalin at the Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party to profit from dissension and discord within the free world may be frustrated. Moreover, to the extent that progress is made in carrying out the second, third and fifth tasks, additional progress is made in carrying out the fourth, the maintenance among peoples captive to Soviet Communism of hope of their ultimate liberation.

8. Efforts to promote confidence and unity among the peoples and the governments of the free world were attended, particularly in Western Europe, by a peculiar difficulty. Whereas, two years ago, lack of confidence in the determination of the United States to contribute to the security of the area was widespread,--and was signally diminished by the tour of General Eisenhower following his designation to be Supreme Commander, Allied Powers in Europe,--in recent months the United States has been accused of interfering too much in the internal affairs of the nations of Western Europe. The

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circumstances therefore required that the United States avoid intensive overt advocacy, that it seek to emphasize the leadership of Europeans in various undertakings and that it endeavor to exert necessary pressures through diplomatic and indigenous rather than public and overt channels. Such tactics were called for especially in connection with the contractual agreements and the still unratified treaty establishing the European Defense Community, the Seventh General Assembly of the United Nations and the ministerial meeting of the North Atlantic Council.

9. More active exploitation was possible with regard to the series of notes on the unity of Germany exchanged by the United States, the United Kingdom and France with the Soviet Union. In order further to eliminate sources of friction between the United States and its allies, bi-national programs concerning the presence of US troops were carried forward in France, the United Kingdom, Germany and North Africa; a similar program has also been undertaken in Japan. Films documenting the role of other than US troops in Korea have been widely shown, and foreign journalists, particularly from Southeast Asia, have been enabled to visit the United Nations forces in Korea. The efforts of the United States to promote the balanced reduction and limitation of arms and armed forces were the subject of continuous exploitation. In Japan, the capabilities of the United States Information Service are being steadily developed. In Greece, institutional advertising was tested as a means of extending the audiences for USIS material.

10. The maintenance of confidence in the United States as an indispensable condition of mutual confidence among the free nations

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also required moderate, careful and detailed exposition of domestic events affecting judgments of the United States by foreigners. These included especially the presidential election during the campaign for which an effort was made to build confidence in the personality and the policies of the leaders of both parties. The legal processes involving the Rosenbergs, actions taken under the Internal Security Act of 1950 and the application of the terms of the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1950 were developments requiring exposition. The maintenance of confidence in the United States further required the discrediting, by others than Americans to the maximum possible extent, of the charges that the United States has sanctioned the use of biological warfare in Korea, a major item in the campaign of hate against the United States undertaken by Soviet Communists during 1952. Material countering the charges of bacteriological warfare is being supplied on a continuing basis to missions abroad for their use as local circumstances require. The campaign of hatred against the United States is being treated positively rather than defensively by exposition, among other thing, of historical acts of international friendship by the United States, its alleviation of disease and hunger abroad and its support of international relief in various forms. Finally, the maintenance of mutual confidence required the frustration of the disruptive purpose of the Congress of Peoples for Peace held in Vienna. As in the case of the Moscow Economic Congress, the tactic here employed, with evidence of relative success, was to avoid giving the Congress advance publicity.

11. Efforts to maintain stability and cohesion in the Near and Middle East and Southeast Asia contended against virtually undiminished nationalism

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nationalism in much of the area, particularly in Egypt, Iran, Tunisia and Morocco. Notwithstanding its effort to serve as moderator and mediator, the United States incurred some of the popular and governmental antagonism hitherto directed almost solely, in the case of Iran, against the United Kingdom and, in the case of Tunisia and Morocco, against France. The headquarters of the United States Information Service have been attached both in Damascus and in Baghdad, but the evidence suggests that the attacks were not inspired by purely local reasons but were undertaken in response to the desire of Communists to diminish the effectiveness of those outlets. Exploitation of a variety of actions was undertaken in order to effect hostile attitudes. One instance was exploitation of the support ultimately given by the United States in the Seventh General Assembly to the resolution on Korea sponsored by India. Coupled with the violent rejection of the resolution by the Soviet Union in the person of Mr. Vishinsky, the recognition by the United States of the leadership of India in this matter produced favorable psychological consequences in the subcontinent and elsewhere in the near and Middle East and Asia which are likely to be felt for a long time, the more so because the United States refrained from self-congratulation with regard to the development. Within India efforts to combat neutralism proceeded with the increase in the circulation of the "American Reporter" from 300,000 to 600,000 biweekly and the distribution of 200,000 copies of 33 books in the local language. Their acceptance within India may be regarded as evidence of a decline in neutralism. A steady utilization of the exchange of persons program helped to make Indians acquainted with the culture and the intellectual quality of the United States. In Burma, the United States

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Information Service inspired and assisted in the establishment under indigenous auspices of a bookstore selling textbooks in Chinese and broke a monopoly hitherto maintained by the Communists. The principal distributor of Communist publication in Burmese has applied for the right to distribute translations made available by USIS on the grounds that they are "more profitable." The transfer in Beirut to a committee of Muslims of the sum of \$200,000 representing the fares of pilgrims carried to Mecca by the United States Air Force permitted continued modest exploitation of the air-lift. In Egypt, in addition to the inauguration of an overt weekly newspaper in Arabic, assistance was given to the government in carrying out a special information program directed at the army. The visit of the Sixth Fleet to Beirut was widely exploited. Programs in Equatorial Africa, West Africa and India have been expanded. Broadcasts from the Courier, anchored at Cyprus, have resulted in clearer signals throughout the Middle East.

12. The most significant efforts recently undertaken to maintain continual recognition of the interests showed by the United States and the governments and peoples of Latin America have been made in Chile. In order to combat the nationalistic trend manifested in the presidential elections in September, in consequence of which the Communist Party may again be legalized, diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and its satellites resumed and propaganda emanating from Argentina gain wider circulation, additional funds have been allocated for an intensified program in Chile. Elements of the program include thrice-weekly radio commentaries, a pictorial pamphlet on "North Americans in Chilean History," the supply of

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supply of books and pamphlets for six indigenous labor libraries, the local production of documentary film on Point IV in Chile and discreet assistance to the preparation of a pamphlet, "The Truth About Copper," to be published and distributed by United States copper companies operating in Chile.

Other significant efforts in Latin America, particularly in Brazil, Chile and Uruguay, included counteraction of criticism, largely inspired by Communists, of agreements under the Mutual Security Act and clear definition of the facts concerning the nationalization of the tin industry in Bolivia. Additionally, some success was achieved in exposing the domination of the impending Continental Cultural Congress in Santiago by Communists and in preventing the capture by Peronists and Communists of the World Congress of Journalists at Santiago. For general distribution in Latin America there has been released a documentary film concerning the tenth anniversary of the extension by the United States of technical assistance to the nations of Latin America.

13. Undertaken primarily through radio broadcasts, efforts to deter aggression and subversion by the Soviet Union and its satellites, including the Chinese People's Republic, continued, involving efforts to cultivate mistrust between the Soviet Union and its satellites and, within the Soviet Union, between the people and the regime. The Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party provided an opportunity to demonstrate how far Stalinism had departed in precept and practice from the principles laid down by the founder of the party. Initially, the chief effort in dealing with the trial of Rudolf Slansky was to pin-point the effort to find scapegoats for the failure of Soviet policy and the diminishing Czech contribution. Further consideration developed a more fundamental attack, exposing the total insecurity of satellite peoples and their exploitation by Moscow in the withdrawal of goods and supplies. The refusal of the United Nations

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command in Korea to agree to the forcible repatriation of prisoners of war was exploited in order to encourage potential dissidents under the control of Soviet Communism. The protracted negotiations between Chou and Stalin were exploited as evidence of the present subservience of China to the interests of the USSR. Broadcasts from Hong Kong to the mainland satirized themes used on the mainland in indoctrination courses. The determination of the United States and its allies to defend Berlin against aggression has continued to be exploited. The growth of allied military strength, particularly the development of new weapons, has been projected soberly and factually to audiences behind the Iron Curtain.

14. Efforts to maintain hope among peoples now captive to Soviet Communism of their ultimate liberation were complicated in Korea by the advocacy on the part of leaders of the Republic of Korea of the immediate unification of Korea by military action. Jointly with the Psychological Warfare Section of the United Nations and the Far East Command, the United States Information Service in Korea has endeavored to make plain that, although the unity of Korea is a fixed objective of the United States and the United Nations, the essential first step is the defeat of aggression, on the achievement of which unification can be sought by political means. Broadcasts to the mainland of China have continued to exploit the traditional friendship of the United States for China, the determination of the United States and the United Nations to continue resistance in Korea until a fair and reasonable armistice is negotiated and the continuing resistance to subversive forces in Indochina and Malaya. Similarly, broadcasts to the satellites of Eastern Europe have continued to exploit

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exploit the growing strength and unity of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the sympathetic understanding of the United States for the plight of the people of the satellites. The most effective demonstration of such sympathy is the progress made in implementing the program for defectors authorized by Congress in 1951, which program has been exploited modestly, in order to maintain hope but not to precipitate defection on an unmanageable scale.

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